

MINUTES.

OF THE

HARMONY BAPTIST ASSOCIATION,

HELD WITH

NEW HOPE CHURCH,

Leake County, Mississippi,

Commencing October 27th, 1877.

Officers :

R. G. BARRETT,
T. J. DENSON,
W. R. GRAVES,

Moderator.
- Clerk.
Treasurer.

JACKSON, MISS:

CLARION STEAM PRINTING ESTABLISHMENT,

1877.

LIST OF ORDAINED MINISTERS, WITH POST OFFICE.

NAME.	POST OFFICE.
THOS. TUCKER.....	Edinburg, Leake County.
W. McMURTRAY.....	Thomastown, Leake County.
B. G. BARRETT.....	Kirkwood, Leake County.
THOS. LOCHALA.....	High Hill, Leake County.
O. F. BREELAND.....	High Hill, Leake County.
S. J. DENSON.....	Ludlow, Scott County.
T. E. MORRIS.....	Good Hope, Leake County.
W. S. RUSHING.....	Carthage, Leake County.
A. J. COCKROFT.....	Conway, Leake County.
F. M. DOUGHTY.....	Canton, Madison County.
W. B. BRAUTHY.....	High Hill, Leake County.

LICENTIATES.

J. N. NEWBURN.....	High Hill, Leake County.
W. W. PARKER.....	Thomastown, Leake County.
J. C. DENSON.....	Ludlow, Scott County.
R. E. MELVIN.....	Thomastown, Leake County.

MINUTES.

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NEW HOPE BAPTIST CHURCH, }
LEAKE COUNTY, MISS., October 27th, 1877. }

The Harmony Baptist Association met this day in her Twenty-eighth Annual Session, pursuant to adjournment.

At 11 o'clock, A. M., the Introductory was preached by Elder R. G. Barrett, the appointee; the theme of which was: "The Power of the Gospel."

After an intermission of one hour, Moderator called the body to order, by praise; prayer by Elder Doughty.

Bros. J. N. Denson and A. J. Cockroft, were appointed to read the Correspondence.

Letters were read from sixteen churches, and delegates' names enrolled.

The body now proceeded to the election of officers. Bro. F. C. Davis and Elder Manning were appointed tellers, who, after receiving the vote of the body, announced the following election, to-wit:

R. G. BARRETT, Moderator.

T. J. DENSON, Clerk.

W. R. GRAVES, Treasurer.

Elder Barrett, after appropriate remarks, assumed the duties of the chair.

Petitionary letters were presented and read, from three new churches, to-wit: Beulah, Damascus and New Prospect, and being found orthodox, were received, and their delegates' names enrolled.

Elder Manning was received as correspondent from Springfield Association, and welcomed to a seat with the body.

The chair announced the following as the Committee on preaching, to-wit: W. S. Cockroft, Graves, and Pastor and Deacons of this (New Hope) Church, who, after a short absence, reported Elder Morris to preach at the house at 11 o'clock; Elder Doughty at the stand at the same hour; Elder Melvin at the stand at 2 o'clock P. M.

The letter from Good Hope Church requesting certain concessions at the hands of Harmony Association, for the manner of reception of the Stump Bridge Church during her session of 1874, was called up, and after remarks from a number of brethren, Elder McMurtray moved to accede to the same, and while said motion was pending, Bro. J. N. Denson offered the following as a substitute for the whole matter:

Resolved, That Harmony Association, in response to Good Hope Church, hereby says, fully and freely, that she is sorry for the manner, (not the reception), in which the Stump Bridge Church was received into this body, at the session of 1874, with the Mt. Zion Church.

APPOINTMENT OF COMMITTEES.

The Moderator announced the following committees, to wit:

Order of Business.—W. R. Graves, W. Hamiker, J. R. Troutman.
Finance.—W. S. Cockroft, J. T. Barrett, J. C. Davis.
Preaching.—W. R. Graves, W. S. Cockroft, O. F. Breeland.
Correspondence.—W. S. Rushing, Stephen Wiggins, J. Beard, J. N. Newman.
Ministerial Education.—J. N. Denson, Thos. Lochla, B. Johnson, J. T. Boutwell.
Mississippi College.—R. E. Melvin, A. J. Cockroft, C. M. Franks.
Missions.—R. E. Melvin, T. J. Burks, S. Ashcraft.
Publications.—W. McMurtray, J. Vinson, Eph. Dicken, G. W. Turner.
Nominations.—J. L. Shackelford, W. R. Jordon, J. R. Flowers, A. J. Deal.
State Religion.—F. M. Doughty, J. C. McBeth, J. L. Saunders, J. H. Davis.
Sabbath Schools.—A. C. Jones, Thos. Oats, W. T. Colier, A. S. Tucker.
Queries and Requests.—J. A. Henry, Chas. W. Jordan, J. N. Newburn.
Obituaries.—O. F. Breeland, Thos. Lochla, A. J. Cockroft.
 Adjourned to Monday, 8:30 A. M.

SABBATH EXERCISES.

Elder T. E. Morris, at 11 o'clock, at the house, preached to a large, attentive audience, from the 97th Psalm, 1st verse.
 Elder Doughty, at the same hour, at the stand, from the 15th Chapter, 16th verse of Mark.
 Elder Melvin in the evening, at the stand, from 24th Psalm, 1st verse; theme—The Support of the Ministry, the Duty of the Church.
 This day's labor, we have reason to hope, was not in vain.

SECOND DAY.

MONDAY, Oct. 29th, 8:30 A. M.

The Association met at this hour, pursuant to adjournment, and was opened by praise; prayer by Elder Ellington.

Elder Ellington presented himself, and was received as correspondent from Kosciusko Association, and was welcomed to a seat in the body.

The committee on preaching reported Elder Manning to occupy the stand in the forenoon, and Elder Ellington in the afternoon, who respectively preached at the times appointed to large and attentive audiences, with, we hope, good effect.

REPORT ON MISSIONS.

Your Committee on Missions report that we regard the cause of Missions as a unit, not a *part* of the gospel, but the gospel. When God gave the world in covenant to His Son, he ordained the gospel as the means by which that gift should be perfected. That gospel contemplates a sinner simply as a sinner, find him where you will; and proposes the means, and the only means of his recovery; and this is the whole of the system of missions. From the day on which the law first went from Zion, and the word of the Lord from Jerusalem, down to the present day, though nearly nineteen centuries have passed away, yet but a small portion, comparatively, of this revolted pro-

vince of the empire of God, has been won back to its alliance to Jesus. Why is this? While we may not dare presume to say, or even think, that any part of the Divine plan ever has been, ever will be, or ever can be frustrated, still, reviewing the whole subject from our standpoint, and there are many things in the practice of the Churches in the past that are radically defective; for which we are called upon to repent. Among these are:

- 1st. A want of personal consecration.
 - 2d. Growing out of this is a spirit of apathy, indifference to the word of others.
 - 3d. The fearful error that the heathen may be saved without the gospel.
 - 4th. A want of systematic action.
- To remedy these defects, we suggest:—
- 1st. That by earnest prayer, we seek to become more thoroughly imbued with the spirit of our Master.
 - 2d. That we collect and disseminate correct information on the spiritual wants of the world—at home and abroad.
 - 3d. That all our Churches adopt a plan of systematic action, and work to it.

Respectfully submitted,

R. E. MELVIN, Chairman.

ORDER OF BUSINESS.

Your Committee on Order of Business respectfully submit the following report:

- 1st. Reports of Committees.
- 2d. Appointments of Correspondents.
- 3d. Miscellaneous Business.
- 4th. Adjournment.

Respectfully,

W. R. GRAVES, Chairman.

Your Committee on Correspondence have but little to report. We recommend that you continue to correspond with the bodies as we have heretofore.

Respectfully,

W. S. RUSHING, Chairman.

On motion, the rules were suspended, and a committee of five was appointed on the relation of certain churches which have failed to represent for several sessions, with leave to report at any time. The following were appointed as said Committee, to-wit: J. N. Denson, McMurtray, Rushing, Dicken and Shackleford.

The body resumed the consideration of the report of Committees, as follows:

REPORT ON PUBLICATIONS.

Your Committee on Publications submit the following report:

We unhesitatingly commend to the Baptists of this Association for their liberal patronage, "The Baptist Record," published at Clinton, Elder J. B. Gambrel, editor, and Prof. M. T. Martin, as proprietor and business manager, as a sterling sheet, and, without invidious distinction, we say it is one of the best religious weeklies now published. Its editor is an able and faithful defender of the truth once delivered to the saints, and his management of the columns of this paper evinces a desire to reform the errors among the Baptists, rather than an endeavor to conform other denominations. Its publisher, Elder M. T. Martin, characterized for his untiring energy and consecration to his work, must make up a paper that will necessarily grow in usefulness and popularity.

We also recommend to our people "The Southern Baptist," pub-

lished at Meridian, with Elder Gresset, as editor, as a religious weekly worthy the patronage of all, and we bespeak for it an increased circulation in our bounds.

Nor would we forget "The Baptist," published at Memphis, by Elder J. R. Graves, the giant defender of Baptist principles. To all, we say, take this paper.

The "Baptist Battle Flag" we recommend as a model weekly.

"Kind Words" is too well known as the best Sunday School paper to need any commendation at our hands.

"The Christian Repository," at St. Louis, by Elder S. H. Ford, is one of the best religious monthlies now published, and we greatly desire a greater circulation in our midst.

"The Southern Baptist Publication Company," at Memphis, is worthy of our confidence, and as such we urge The Baptist to a more liberal patronage, as purchases here made not only aids in the dissemination of truth, but is sustaining a Baptist enterprise, also.

Respectfully,

W. McMURTEAY, Chairman.

REPORT ON NOMINATIONS.

The Committee on Nominations made the following report:

Your Committee on Nominations submit the following report as the Executive Board for this Associational year:

R. G. BARRETT, President,	} Ex-officio.
T. J. DENSON, Secretary,	
W. R. GRAYES, Treasurer.	

W. McMurtray,
Ellis Tucker,
W. P. Gill,
O. F. Breeland,
R. E. Melvin,
Thos. Lochale,

A. J. Cockroft,
J. E. Kernop,
W. S. Rushing,
W. S. Cockroft,
F. M. Dota.

We respectfully suggest that the respective churches of this Association send up queries and propositions to be discussed at each meeting of the Board. Also, they are requested to elect delegates to sit with the Board, if they so elect.

We nominate to preach the next Introductory, Elder A. J. Cockroft—Elder F. M. Doughty, alternate.

Respectfully,

J. L. SHACKLEFORD, Chairman.

MISSISSIPPI COLLEGE.

Your Committee on Mississippi College beg leave to present the following report:

That such an institution of learning as Mississippi College should be generally patronized by our people, is too apparent to need much said by us. It is a known fact that no institution in all the land is so intensely religious as Mississippi College has demonstrated itself to be, and for the education of young men who desire a thorough knowledge of the English, Latin and Greek languages, we can heartily recommend it to all, and especially our brethren who may have sons whose minds need mental training, in order that they may successfully discharge the arduous duties of life.

Respectfully,

A. J. COCKROFT, Chairman.

The Committee on Queries reported, and while pending its adoption was amended by striking out the first and second paragraphs, and as amended was adopted as follows:

REPORT OF QUERIES.

Your Committee on Queries and Requests submit the following report: We find a request from Mt. Zion and Jerusalem Churches for the convening of this body at its next session. We recommend the next session to be held at Jerusalem Church, near Ludlow, Scott county, Miss.

Respectfully,

J. A. HENRY, Chairman.

SPIRITUAL CONDITION OF THE BLACKS.

On motion, the rules were suspended, and a committee on the condition of the blacks, was appointed with instructions to report instant.

The Chair appointed the following as said committee: W. R. Graves, Chairman, A. J. Cockroft, O. F. Breeland, F. M. Doughty, Thos. Lochla and J. L. Shackelford, who reported as follows:

Your committee on the spiritual condition of the blacks, respectfully report, that we believe they are in great need of instruction. Indeed, this must be patent to all, and as they express a willingness to receive instruction from us, we feel that it should be regarded by us as the Macedonian cry, "come over and help us." Therefore, we urge our ministers to labor with and endeavor to establish them in the true principles of the doctrine of Christ, whenever and wherever in the providence of God they may be able so to do.

Respectfully,

W. R. GRAVES, Chairman.

STATE OF RELIGION.

The Committee on State of Religion reported as follows: Your Committee on State of Religion beg leave to report the following:

GOOD HOPE (Madison Co.)—In peace and harmony.
 BETHESDA—At peace.
 GOOD HOPE (Leake Co.)—Large and attentive congregations.
 MARS HILL—Have been much blessed and some additions.
 MT. CARMEL—Blessed with some additions.
 SALEM—In a cold state.
 PLEASANT HILL—Blessed with some additions.
 STUMP BRIDGE—In peace.
 PENSACOLA—In peace.
 MT. ZION—Much revived and many additions.
 JERUSALEM—Enjoying the presence of the Lord.
 CANAAN—In a cold state.
 THOMASTOWN—Enjoying peace and harmony.
 NEW HOPE—Somewhat revived, and some additions.
 CENTER HILL—Nothing cheering.
 NEW PROVIDENCE—Much revived, and many additions.
 BEULAH—Organized with thirty-seven members.
 NEW PROSPECT—Organized the 17th September—35 members.
 DAMASCUS—Organized August, 1877, with 7 members, received by experience 14 members.

The above report shows a majority of the churches to be in a cold state. We would say to those churches in the language of Holy Writ, "be zealous and repent, lest a worse thing come upon thee."

Respectfully,

F. M. DOUGHTY, Chairman.

CHURCHES FAILING TO BE REPRESENTED.

The Special Committee appointed in relation to certain churches, report as follows:

Your Committee to which was referred the relation of certain churches which have refused to represent in the body for the present and two past meetings, submit this as our report :

We feel that Harmony has only discharged her duty to them in waiting on them by messengers, as appointed at your session, when we remember that God has said, "When thou comest to the altar to offer thy gift and rememberest thy brother hath aught against thee, leave there thy gift and go be reconciled to thy brother, then come offer thy gift;" and hence fondly trust shall yet yield its peaceable fruits. Good Hope has, however, returned, in compliance with that request, and we welcome her to her rightful place in the body.

This body has been by certain of them represented as holding alien immersion, and other equally groundless charges, yet we feel any indulgence on our part in criminations or recriminations, unjustifiable in the light of the gospel, and choose therefore rather to await a returning sense of justice on their part, to correct this and other, in our opinion, groundless charges. Your Committee, after careful thought, deem it best for the Association to only drop them from the roll, and say unto them "let there be no strife between us;" praying God's blessings that our action herein may redound to the advancement of His cause and kingdom.

Your Committee also find that the Mt. Pisgah Association received into her body in 1875, the Fellowship Church, while she was a member of this Association, which we believe derogatory to the relative duties of Christians as taught by Christ and his apostles—at least unkind from one Baptist body towards another; but we say unto them, Church and Association, our peace be with thee.

We, for the above considerations, submit the following for your adoption :

Resolved, That Harmony Association hereby drops from her roll, the following churches, to-wit: Doaks Creek, Fellowship, Friendship, Haise Creek, Hebron, Mt. Pisgah, Rehoboth and Bethlehem.

Respectfully,

J. N. DENSON, Chairman.
W. McMURTRAY,
W. S. RUSHING,
J. L. SHACKLEFORD,
E. DICKEN,

Committee.

The body now took a recess for one hour.

MINISTERIAL EDUCATION.

The Committee on Ministerial Education, reported as follows:

Your Committee on Ministerial Education submits the following report:

While it is true, God in His wisdom has used very many human instruments, weak in themselves, and very many ministers called of God have been unlettered, through whom He has accomplished great good in the world; yet none of these but could have more efficiently preached the word had they been supplied with a liberal education. Nor would we be understood as in any manner reflecting upon any of our brethren, who feel called of God to preach, that are destitute; but unto all such, say: "Sow in the morning, and withhold not thy hand in the evening;" but nevertheless, upon those of all ages and conditions in life, "study to show thyself approved," remembering that God requires the improvement of the talents he has given you; and while many may be deprived of the privilege of taking a collegiate course,

yet every opportunity should be utilized in acquiring a knowledge of the Bible and of the language in which that Bible is written.

To the churches and members respectively, we exhort to their duties in aiding, as God has prospered those called of God to His work, so as to enable them to enjoy the best possible advantages for the acquisition of a liberal education. We would further say, that all learning that might be bestowed would not make a preacher, for this is peculiarly the work of God; but such as God has called, we pray you to help them to qualify themselves for the honorable station.

Mississippi College we believe well suited for the wants of our students for the ministry.

Respectfully,
W. McMURTRAY, Chairman.

SABBATH SCHOOLS.

The Committee on Sabbath Schools submitted the following report:

We find but two churches reporting anything whatever on this subject, and therefore we are left without data to submit a report. We, however, hope that the absence of any report does not show the actual state of Sabbath Schools in our midst. In view of the teachings of Christ and his Apostles, we earnestly exhort the churches to awaken on this subject. Let them remember God has said—"Train up the child in the way he should go;" and to bring him up in the "nurture and admonition of the Lord," with much other direct teaching on this subject, and therefore, that the Church which fails to take steps to organize and maintain one in its midst, is very remiss in her duties to herself, to the children and to her God.

To the pastors we also say, are you not also fearfully derelict? Are you stirring up or taking any steps to bring up your churches to their duty? Remember God declares: "He that knoweth his duty and doeth it not, shall be beaten with many stripes."

Respectfully,
A. C. JONES, Chairman.

OBITUARIES.

The Committee on Obituaries reported the following:

Your Committee on Obituaries are happy to report that the lives of our ministers have been precious in His sight, and while our churches have reported some deaths among them, yet we have no data upon which to make a special report.

Respectfully,
O. F. BREELAND, Chairman.

APPOINTMENT OF CORRESPONDENTS.

The body now proceeded to the appointment of Correspondents as follows:

To Louisville Association—At French Camps, the 2d Sunday in October. R. E. Melvin, W. S. Rushing.

To Springfield Association—The fourth in September, eight miles southwest of Polkville, at Union church. O. F. Breeland, W. S. Rushing, W. S. Cockroft and J. N. Denson.

Kosciusko Association—At Sallis Station, Long Creek Church, the third in October. R. E. Melvin, R. G. Barrett, E. Dicken, W. S. Cockroft, G. W. Turner, Thos. Lochala.

Baptist State Convention—At Summit. R. E. Melvin, W. McMurray, J. N. Denson.

RESOLUTIONS.

The following resolutions were adopted:

Resolved 1st, That the first Lord's day in January, 1878, be set apart as a day of special prayer for more spirituality and consecration in all our Churches, and that the Lord of the harvest send more laborers into the harvest.

Resolved 2d, That in the future sessions of the Harmony Association the Committee on Ministerial Education and Mississippi College be consolidated.

Resolved 3d, That the Treasurer be, and he is hereby, ordered to pay over all moneys in his hands for Ministerial Education to Elder W. S. Webb, at Clinton, Miss.

Resolved 4th, That the thanks of this Association be tendered to the members of New Hope Church and the citizens of the community, for the very hospitable reception and entertainment of the delegates and visitors of this Association.

Resolved 5th, That the Clerk of this body be allowed fifteen dollars for his services, and that he draw on the Treasurer for the same; also, that the Treasurer be allowed five dollars for his services.

Resolved 6th, That the Clerk draw on the Treasurer for the necessary amount to print and distribute the minutes.

Resolved 7th, That the Clerk be, and he is hereby, authorized to issue a letter of dismission to Good Hope Church (Leake) upon her call, between this and next meeting.

Resolved 8th, That the old and new Ex. Boards be requested to meet at New Providence Church, Saturday before the first Sunday in December next.

Resolved 9th, That the time of meeting for all future sessions of this body shall be changed so as to convene at 10 o'clock A. M., for the purpose of organization, instead of 2 o'clock, as heretofore.

The Association now adjourned, amid much good feeling, to meet with the Jerusalem Baptist Church, at Ludlow Scott county, on Saturday before the 4th Sunday in October, A. D., 1778.

R. G. BARRETT, Moderator.

T. J. DENSON, Clerk.

HOME AND FOREIGN MISSIONS.

The following amounts were subscribed for Home and Foreign Missions as follows, to-wit:

MISSIONS.	HOME.	FOREIGN.
Wm. McMurtray.....	\$ 2 50	\$ 2 50
A. J. Cockroft.....	1 00	1 00
R. G. Barrett.....	5 00	
S. J. Denson.....	5 00	
J. L. Shackelford.....	2 00	
W. R. Lacy.....	5 00	
W. F. Hamiker.....	2 00	
R. M. Roberts.....	5 00	
A. C. Jones.....	2 50	
Thomas Lochala.....	2 00	
J. N. Denson.....	5 00	
J. L. Sanders.....	2 50	
J. Henry.....	2 00	
W. Jordon.....	2 00	
T. J. Oats.....	2 00	
F. M. Doughty.....	2 00	
O. F. Breeland.....	5 00	
W. R. Graves.....	2 00	
J. Boutwell.....	2 00	
T. G. Ward.....	2 00	
Miss E. Roberts.....	2 00	
R. E. Melvin.....	The tenth of all his income.	
W. S. Rushing.....	Ten dollars, to be paid in Missionary labor.	

TREASURER'S REPORT.

The Treasurer made the following report:

W. R. GRAVES, Treasurer, in account with Harmony Association.

1876.	DR.	
To balance on hand per last report as follows:		
	For Ministerial Education.....	\$ 47 50
	For Home Missions.....	11 10
	Received from Finance Committee.....	60 60
		<hr/>
		\$ 119 20

1876.	CRS.	
Oct. 23.	By amount paid Clerk for minutes.....	\$ 40 00
	By amount paid Clerk for salary.....	15 00
1877.	By amount paid Treasurer for salary.....	5 00
July 28.	By amount paid Wm. Rushing, Missionary labor...	4 50
	By amount balance on hand.....	54 70
		<hr/>
		\$ 119 20

Respectfully,

W. R. GRAVES, Treasurer.

The Finance Committee made the following report:

Your Committee on Finance submit the following report:

Am't sent up by the Churches for Associational purposes.....	\$ 52 25
Am't sent up by the Churches for Home Missions.....	1
Am't collected on Sabbath Home Missions.....	11 85
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Total.....	\$ 80 80

We have examined Treasurer's report and find it correct.

Respectfully,

W. S. COCKROFT, Chairman.

LIST OF CHURCHES, DELEGATES, Etc.

CHURCHES.	POSTOFFICE.	DELEGATES' NAMES.	PASTORS.	Total Fellowship.	Number of Minutes.
Bethesda	Camden	J. C. Davis	R. G. Barrett	40	12
Beulah	Centre	E. Dicken, E. Johnson	R. G. Barrett	40	20
Centre Hill	Conway	A. J. Cockroft, W. S. Cockroft, W. R. Jordan	R. G. Barrett	78	25
Canaan	Kirkwood	E. T. Guber	D. A. Ellington	52	15
Damascus	Millville	Wm. Hamiker, Thos. Oats	D. A. Ellington	22	12
Good Hope (Mad.)	Kirkwood	R. G. Barrett, J. T. Boutwell, J. T. Barrett	R. G. Barrett	92	20
Good Hope (Leake)	Good Hope	J. Beard, G. W. Turner	T. E. Morris	69	20
Jerusalem	Ludlow	J. N. Denson, T. J. Denson, T. J. Barks	W. R. Butler	80	20
Mt. Carmel	Edinburgh	J. L. Shackelford, C. M. Franks	W. McMurtrey	61	15
Mt. Zion	High Hill	O. F. Breeland, J. N. Newburn, J. A. Henry	O. F. Breeland	108	50
Mars Hill	Edinburgh	T. G. Moore, W. S. Rushing	W. S. Rushing	63	25
New Hope	Carthage	A. C. Jones, J. R. Troutman	O. F. Breeland	41	20
New Providence	Carthage	J. R. Flowers, J. L. Saunders	R. G. Barrett	61	15
New Prospect	Carthage	Samuel Green, S. Ashcraft	E. T. Denny	25	15
Pensacola	Carthage	Stephen Wiggins, A. J. Deal	F. M. Doughty	36	10
Pleasant Hill	Carthage	J. C. McBeth, W. T. Collier	W. B. Brantley	24	10
Salem	Carthage	T. Lochala, J. H. Davis, W. R. Graves	W. S. Rushing	87	15
Stump Bridge	Canton	F. M. Doty, Julius Vinson	W. McMurtrey	69	20
Thomastown	Thomastown	W. McMurtrey, R. E. Melvin	R. E. Melvin	52	15

